

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 7, and 21 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:

a first image bearing member for carrying a toner image; and

a movable second image bearing member for carrying a toner image,

wherein a toner image on said first image bearing member is transferred to said second image bearing member at a first transfer portion, and the toner image on said second image bearing member is transferred to a transfer material at a second transfer portion:

a charging member contacting to said second image bearing member and being arranged on a downstream side of said second transfer portion and on an upstream side of said first transfer portion in said moving direction of said second image bearing member; and

a mark portion having a thickness and being formed on said second image bearing member,

wherein a contact region between said charging member and said ~~second~~ second image bearing member does not overlap with said mark portion in a direction perpendicular to a moving direction of said second image bearing member.

2. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said charging member includes a first end located on a side of said mark portion and a second end located on a side opposite to said first end in a direction perpendicular to

a moving direction of said second image bearing member, and said first end is located on a side closer to said second end with respect to said mark portion.

3. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said charging member has a surface hardness of 45 degrees or more (JIS-A).

4. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said mark portion is a sheet member adhered onto said second image bearing member.

5. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said mark portion has a thickness of 30 microns or more.

6. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said mark portion has an opening formed on said second image bearing member and a sheet member covering said opening.

7. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1
[[I]], wherein said charging member and said mark portion are arranged on a side of a toner image carrying surface of said second image bearing member.

8. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said charging member is a first charging member, and further comprising a second charging member arranged on a downstream side of said first charging member and on an upstream side of said first transfer portion in a moving direction of said second image bearing member, and wherein said contact region between said second charging member and said second image bearing member overlaps with said mark portion in a direction perpendicular to a moving direction of said second image bearing member.

9. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said second charging member includes a first end located on a side of said mark portion and a second end located on a side opposite to said first end in a direction perpendicular to a moving direction of said second image bearing member, and said first end is located on a side opposite to said second end with respect to said mark portion.

10. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said second charging member has a surface hardness of 45 degrees or less (JIS-A).

11. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said second charging member is applied with an alternative current voltage in which a direct current voltage is convoluted with an alternative current voltage.

12. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said charging member is applied with a voltage for supplying a toner remaining on said second image bearing member passing through said second transfer portion with electric charges having a polarity reverse to a normal polarity of a toner.

13. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 12, wherein a voltage applied to said charging member is a direct current voltage.

14. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a cleaning means for collecting toner on said first image bearing member, wherein a toner on said second image bearing member is moved to said first image bearing member at said first transfer portion and then collected by said cleaning means.

15. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus comprising:
a first image bearing member for carrying a toner image; and
a movable second image bearing member for carrying a toner image,
wherein a toner image on said first image bearing member is transferred to said second image bearing member at a first transfer portion, and the toner image on said second image bearing member is transferred to a transfer material at a second transfer portion;

a charging member contacting to said second image bearing member and being arranged on a downstream side of said second transfer portion and on an upstream side of said first transfer portion in a moving direction of a second image bearing member;

an opposing member opposing said charging member via said second image bearing member and contacting to said second image bearing member; and

a mark portion having a thickness and being formed on said second image bearing member,

wherein a contact region between said opposing member and said second image bearing member does not overlap with said mark portion in a direction perpendicular to a moving direction of said second image bearing member.

16. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said opposing member includes a first end located on a side of said mark portion and a second end located on a side opposite to said first end in a direction perpendicular to a moving direction of said second image bearing member, and said first end is located on a side closer to said second end with respect to said mark portion.

17. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said mark portion is a sheet member adhered onto said second image bearing member.

18. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said mark portion has a thickness of 30 microns or more.

19. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said mark portion has an opening formed on said second image bearing member and a sheet member covering said opening.

20. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said mark portion is arranged on a surface on a toner image carrying side of said second image bearing member, and said opposing member is arranged on a surface on a side opposite to a toner image carrying side of said second image bearing member.

21. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 15, wherein a contact region between said charging ~~member~~ member and said second image bearing member overlaps with said mark portion in a direction perpendicular to a moving direction of said second image bearing member.

22. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said charging member includes a first end located on a side of said mark portion and a second end located on a side opposite to said first end in a direction perpendicular to a moving direction of said second image bearing member, and said first end is located on a side opposite to said second end with respect to said mark portion.

23. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said charging member is applied with a voltage for supplying a toner remaining on said second image bearing member passing through said second transfer portion with electric charges having a polarity reverse to a normal polarity of a toner.

24. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 23, wherein a voltage applied to said charging member is a direct current voltage.

25. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 15, and further comprising a cleaning means for collecting toner on said first image bearing member , wherein a toner on said second image bearing member is moved to said first image bearing member at said first transfer portion and then collected by said cleaning means.